

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 01 Mar 2023 until 23:59 on Thursday 02 Mar 2023

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 28 Feb 2023 at 11:17

Confidence: High for general developments. Medium for cloud details.

Headline for Wednesday 01 Mar 2023: Mostly cloudy. Chilly northeast winds. Occasional showers, wintry over the summits.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 01 Mar 2023

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Gales

No Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Poor visibility

Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Dull	Mist	Fog	Mist	Dull	Cloudy	Dull	Mist
Precipitation probability							
30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	20%

Forecast for Wednesday 01 Mar 2023

Weather: Mostly cloudy with occasional showers, these wintry over the summits. Some brighter spells, the best of these over the Western and Southwestern Fells. Feeling cold at height.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% east, 70% west

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud, base 600 to 900m, clearing the summits at times in the west. Visibility moderate to very poor in showers and cloud, otherwise very good.

Forecast for Wednesday 01 Mar 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	27/34 NE	25/31 NE	22/28 NE	25/33 NE	23/31 NE	22/30 NE	23/30 NE	22/29 NE	19/26 NE
600	20/28 NE	18/25 NE	17/24 NE	18/25 NE	20/27 NE	19/27 NE	18/26 NE	17/25 NE	14/21 NE
300	9/23 NE	8/21 NE	6/18 NE	7/20 NE	10/23 NE	9/22 NE	8/21 NE	7/19 NE	5/16 NE
Valley	11/25 NE	9/20 NE	8/19 NE	9/20 NE	11/22 NE	10/21 NE	10/21 NE	9/20 NE	8/17 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-9	-2/-9	-2/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-0/-7	-1/-8	-2/-9	-2/-8
600	1/-6	0/-5	0/-5	1/-5	2/-4	2/-3	2/-4	1/-5	1/-4
300	3/-0	3/-0	3/0	4/1	5/2	5/2	4/1	3/0	3/1
Valley	6/2	5/2	5/3	6/3	7/4	8/5	7/4	6/3	6/3
Freezing Level*	700m	700m	700m	600m	700m	800m	700m	600m	700m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Meteorologist's View

Nothing to add.

Forecast for Thursday 02 Mar 2023

Weather: Still rather cloudy, but skies brightening during the day and mainly dry. However, the odd light shower still possible, mainly overnight and during the morning, wintry over the summits. Chilly northeast winds.

Maximum wind: Northeast 15mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% rising to 80% in the afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Occasional or extensive cloud, base 600 to 900m, lifting and breaking near or above the summits in the afternoon.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 3 Celsius rising to 8 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius rising to Plus 2 Celsius during the day
Freezing level: Around 600m rising to 1000m in the afternoon

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 28 February 2023. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:30 Full report: There is a skittering of fresh snow above 700m, this, however, was thawing below 800m. Above 800m there is a fairly evenly spread layer of snow with a depth of only a centimetre or so and this depth, for once, does not rise much with height. The snow was soft and wet and, despite the summit temperature at midday hovering around zero, surprisingly no ice was encountered. It would, though, take very little for that to change and, with the ground being so damp, verglas (thin ice) could form on rocks. Today the main hazard was the slippery nature of the wet and snow dusted rock especially on steep and exposed ground.

Above 900m on steep north and east facing slopes there are patches of old, hard snow, which have been present for weeks, now situated under a thin layer of fresh snow. Owing to their locations, though, they are not on any paths so walkers are unlikely to have to negotiate them. There was a noticeable contrast today between the valleys, with their signs of Spring, and the bleak, desolate summit which, around midday gave a windchill reading (what the temperature actually feels like) of minus 10 degrees C. Therefore full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch, map and compass (combined with the navigational skills to use them in low cloud) are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. Given the current conditions, for those heading above the snowline microspikes are strongly recommended. They were not used today, but only a tiny drop in temperature would cause the soft snow to freeze creating very different conditions. There is, also, the possibility of further showers overnight which could fall as snow at altitude making an ice axe, and possibly crampons, useful. Temperature: minus 0.6 C, Maximum wind speed 33.1 mph, Wind chill: minus 10.2 C, Average wind speed: 22.8 mph

Issued at: 1730 on Tue 28 Feb 2023